

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4803**

March 23, 2017

Acting Associate Administrator for Congressional  
and Intergovernmental Relations  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 WJC  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Acting Associate Administrator:

For a number of years, the owners of the future Buffalo Mountain surface mine site in southern West Virginia, have been working with various federal agencies for the permitting needed to open this mine.

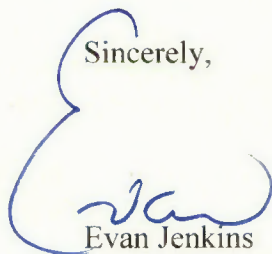
The opening of this mine would create not only coal jobs for this economically depressed region but open up economic development opportunities as well. It is my understanding that after mining operations have concluded in a portion of the site, the owner plans to turn the land over for construction of a new segment of the long-awaited King Coal Highway.

The development of this mine – and thus, land for the King Coal Highway – is vital for economic development in the coalfields of southern West Virginia. The highway will connect remote parts of the state, opening them up to new development opportunities.

I would like to request the attendance of representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency to meet with me on April 25 in Washington, D.C., for an update on the status of this vital project. Invitations will also be extended to the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and state agencies and stakeholders to join us for this meeting.

To discuss this meeting further, please contact my legislative director, Brian Barnard, by phone at 202-225-3452 or by email at [brian.barnard@mail.house.gov](mailto:brian.barnard@mail.house.gov). I look forward to your response and a productive discussion on this critical project for West Virginia.

Sincerely,



Evan Jenkins  
Member of Congress

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